

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



Division of Measurement Standards
8500 Fruitridge Road
Sacramento, California 95826-4808

DMS NOTICE
P - 03 - 2

July 3, 2003

Discard: 7/04

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

SUBJECT: Biodiesel Fuel

The Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) staff has sampled several locations selling biodiesel fuel throughout California. Our labs tested the samples to see if they complied with D 975 diesel fuel specifications. It was determined that the blends of biodiesel fuel and conventional diesel fuel containing up to 20% biodiesel fuel (B20) did meet those requirements. However, pure biodiesel fuel (B100) failed to meet the distillation requirement established for conventional diesel fuel.

Applying conventional diesel fuel standards to pure biodiesel fuel is inappropriate. Therefore, steps are being taken to adopt regulations containing interim standards and labeling requirements for biodiesel fuel and biodiesel fuel blends. Once the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) completes its work on consensus standards for biodiesel fuel and biodiesel fuel blends, we will withdraw our interim standards and adopt the ASTM standards as California's standard.

DMS requests that when you find biodiesel fuel (B100) for sale, please forward the location information to your area Liaison and Training Unit (LTU) Specialist.

Weights and measures officials will be kept informed as progress continues in adopting regulations for these products.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your area LTU Specialist or Cynthia Lyon Mough, Program Supervisor for the LTU, at (916) 229-3050.

Sincerely,

Mike Cleary
Director
(916) 229-3000

cc: Ed Williams